

## ABSTRACT

A sheet finishing apparatus has a stacking tray for stacking sheets formed with indicia, a processing tray established in the process to said stacking tray for receiving said sheets, a movable aligning plate established on said processing tray that moves traverse to the direction of discharge of said sheets. The system has a plurality of aligning operations. The first aligning operation has a distance of  $L1$  from the aligning position of the movable aligning plate to the first aligning operation starting position. The last aligning operation a distance of  $L2$  from the aligning position of the movable aligning plate to the final aligning operation starting position. The relationship between these distances is  $L1 > L2$  for the last sheet of a plurality of sheets in a set. A first and a second aligning operation are performed on each of a set of sheets wherein the distance from the aligning

position in the second aligning operation to the aligning start position is  $L_3$ ,

the relationships between these distances being  $L_1 > L_2 > L_3$ .